

REMARKS

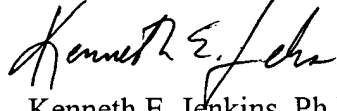
To expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to more closely resemble the allowed claims in U.S. Application No. 09/513,907, from which the present application claims priority.

Support for new claims 22-30 may be found in the claims as originally filed and throughout the specification, for example, on page 13, lines 7-20 (stating in part: "The present invention provides electrophoretic methods and devices for separating biological macromolecules (including polypeptides), methods for determining the partial or complete sequence of a polypeptide using mass spectroscopy, methods combining electrophoretic methods with polypeptide sequencing by mass spectroscopy, methods using the above *to generate protein expression fingerprint datasets from a sample* or a plurality of samples, and computer-based database query and retrieval systems for utilizing said protein expression fingerprint datasets for various uses" (emphasis added)); page 20, lines 25-34 (stating in part: "The invention provides a method for identifying a high-resolution protein expression fingerprint for a cell type, tissue, or pathological sample, comprising obtaining a protein-containing extract of a cellular sample and electrophoresing said extract with a first capillary electrophoresis apparatus, eluting protein-containing fractions therefrom, electrophoresing said protein containing fractions on a second capillary electrophoresis apparatus, or plurality thereof in parallel, and identifying the species of proteins by fragmentation mass spectroscopy sequencing to obtain PSTs for a plurality of protein species, and *compiling a dataset (or fingerprint record) containing the collection of PSTs obtained thereby.*" (emphasis added)); and page 21, line to page 23, line 12.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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